

ATLA

newsletter

American Theological Library Association



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ATLA Newsletter

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Mission Statement

The mission of the American Theological Library Association is to foster the study of theology and religion by enhancing the development of theological and religious libraries and librarianship.

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ATLA

Member News

a professional association of theological libraries and librarians

President's Message



Dear Colleagues,

As threatened in my initial presidential message, I have rummaged in the ATLA archives again for the content of this column. This time I bring out of the dark cave some remains of an oral history project that ATLA engaged in twenty years ago. The record is somewhat fragmentary—transcripts from ten interviews plus some audio-cassettes—but the recollections of the ATLA leaders captured by these interviews provide an interesting glimpse into earlier times.

The ATLA oral history project was conducted over the course of a decade starting in the mid 1980s. Under the auspices of the ATLA Historical Records Committee, with Alice Kendrick of the ELCA serving as a consultant, various ATLA leaders were interviewed by other ATLA members, usually at the time of the annual conference. Funding or impetus for the project ran out around 1994, leaving many of the suggested interview candidates still not engaged—including some who would have had interesting stories to tell, like Donn Michael Farris, Simeon Daly, and Louis Charles Willard.

The interviewees were instructed along the following lines: “Think of this interview in terms of someone in ATLA who will be reading your memoir in the year 2050. What should this individual know about ATLA as an organization, and your own significant role, that would be impossible to understand from the printed matter that now exists?” Here are a few excerpts that caught my eye:

Question to Betty O’Brien (1990): “Do you remember anything about the program of the ATLA in the early sixties? Where was the energy of the Association at the time?”

Mrs. O’Brien: “I think one of my recollections is the long extended business meetings that we had and the very active participation of the members of the Association in the discussion at the business meetings. Every report that was given, even if it was handed out in print, had to be read word for word and discussed before we moved on to the next item. There was not always the kind of agreement that there is now. There were a few librarians who at times became very heated over the discussion that was going on . . .”

Question to John Trotti (1989): “When we come together and meet [at conferences], what is our role, what is the balance between just being present and learning from each other, sharing information, or actually feeling the need to take on a project?”

Dr. Trotti: “We have, of necessity, lived on . . . the goodwill and volunteer spirit of the membership; otherwise we wouldn’t be anything and people have given unstintingly over the years—that’s the only way we ever got things started like the Index Board, Microtext Board, anything else; and I think we still need that—people who are willing to go that second or third mile and be the program leader, host the conference, take on something on an ongoing basis, and not just related to the conference. So I think we need that and that is an important ingredient of who we are . . .”

One of the oral history transcripts in the archives is from Stephen Peterson, author of the Project 2000 report that I talked about in an earlier column, and I was interested to see his perspective on the aftermath of the project:

Dr. Peterson: [re: the follow-up of Project 2000]: “I never kept track, but the list of people with whom I have had the following conversation is fairly lengthy, and it usually comes from a head librarian: ‘Well, I don’t think Project 2000 was worth anything,

because when it got to our school all the dean did was send it to me.’ And implicit in that discussion . . . is always the fact that it means the dean or the president is not interested in the Project 2000 report or in the library. I just think that’s a fundamental misreading of the situation . . . because I think it is equally plausible to suggest that the very act of a dean or a president making sure that the head librarian got the report could equally be construed as an invitation: ‘This is an area in which I am asking you as the librarian to exercise leadership in this institution.’ . . . My standard response is . . . ‘If you’re the professor of Old Testament and a major sort of programmatic initiative came forward in that field, and the dean or the president sent it to you as the professor of Old Testament, would you respond the same way and say that therefore the dean or the president had no interest? No. You would immediately know what that meant—that that was your area of expertise. You were the one that’s supposed to take hold.’ And, you know, I get very funny looks when I say that, but . . . that’s where I think we as library professionals need to stand up and take stock of our own attitude towards our work . . . Who else would in fact plan or lead the discussion of a faculty on a library agenda other than the librarian? I’d be outraged if someone else pretended to do it . . .”

The importance of theological librarians being pro-active and strong is a dominant theme in the oral history transcripts. These interviews were conducted in the era before ATLA had a strong central office with employed staff, so the landscape has changed, but the perspective of this earlier era should encourage us to remember that the ATLA’s membership is still its strongest asset.



Martha Lund Smalley
ATLA Board President
Yale University Divinity School Library



Welcome

ATLA

New Members

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

- Ms. Karen L. Baughman, Butler, PA
- Miss Els Brouwer, Ermelo, Netherlands
- Ms. Jennifer L. Dekker, Ottawa, ON, Canada
- Mrs. Lisa A. Dubinski, Jackson, MI
- Rev. Chineta S. Goodjoin, Los Angeles, CA
- Ms. Anne E. Grenda, Highlands, NJ
- Rev. LaRahna Hughes, Macon, GA
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- Mr. Jonathan Rudnick, Red Bank, NJ
- Mr. Joseph Siegel, Champaign, IL
- Mr. Brent C. Swearingen, Siloam Springs, AR

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- Rev. Michael-Davin Blythe, Suffolk, VA
- Ms. Shelia J. Cox, McAdenville, NC
- Mr. Freeman D. Culver, III, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Mrs. Taryn Kingery, Norman, OK
- Mr. Eric Nyrose, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- Mr. Ryan D. Shrauner, Lexington, KY
- Ms. Mary E. Zeman, Brooklyn, NY

AFFILIATE MEMBER LIBRARIES

- Faith Theological Seminary & Bible College, Baltimore, MD
- Pacific Rim Bible College, Honolulu, HI

AFFILIATE MEMBER ORGANIZATION

- R.G. Mitchell Books, Waterloo, ON, Canada

Board Members Elected for 2008-2011

The following candidates have been elected to serve a three-year term (2008-2011) on the ATLA Board of Directors, subject to confirmation by the membership of the Board Secretary's report at the 2008 Annual Conference: Cheryl Adams, Eileen Crawford, Patrick Graham and David Stewart. The Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors express their thanks to all candidates who appeared on the slate and for their many efforts on behalf of the Association.

*Roberta A. Schaafsma,
Secretary, ATLA Board of Directors*



Cheryl Adams



Pat Graham



David Stewart



Eileen Crawford

Member News



Member Notes

Committee Visitors in Chicago

Despite frigid temperatures and the threat of snow, both the Publications Committee and the Theological Librarianship editorial board met successfully at ATLA's Chicago offices on Monday and Tuesday, February 18-19.

Photo 1: Publications Committee, left to right: Doug Gragg (chair), Beth Bidlack, and Amy Limpitlaw

Photo 2: The Theological Librarianship editorial board: (left to right, above) Melody Layton McMahon, Section Editor for Critical Reviews; David R. Stewart, Editor; Beth Sheppard, Section Editor for Bibliographic Essays; Andy Keck, Section Editor for Columns; and Ron Crown, Editor.



The Professional Development Committee (PDC) met in Chicago on Thursday and Friday, February 28 and 29 with a full agenda of items related to the continuing education of theological librarians.

Photo 3: left to right: Angela Morris, Seth Kasten, Kris Veldheer, and Eric Friede (chair).

On Friday, March 28, the Membership Advisory Committee (MAC) held its annual meeting with the ATLA Member Services Department to offer counsel on a variety of issues. Due to inclement local weather conditions, several flights into the city were cancelled and committee member **Marsha Blake** was unable to attend the meeting in person. However, she was able to actively participate via telephone.

Photo 4: left to right: Bill Faupel, Emily Knox, and Garry Truman.



Members in the News

Christine Schwartz, Head Cataloger at Princeton Theological Seminary, will be one of the panelists during “The Future of Cataloging: A PALINET Symposium” on Thursday, May 29 at The College of Physicians of Philadelphia. The symposium will feature presentations from PALINET members on recent trends and developments for the “next generation cataloger.” Go to <http://www.palinet.org/futurecatsym.aspx> for more information.

Serge Danielson-Francois, Librarian at Divine Child High School, served as a panelist for “A Conversation on Race: Interracial Relationships” at the University of Michigan-Dearborn on March 14. The discussion featured two panels: those involved in interracial relationships and children of parents in interracial relationships. You can read a summary of the event in the university's student newspaper (<http://media.www.themichiganjournal.com/media/storage/paper255/news/2008/03/18/News/Conversation.On.Race.Interracial.Relationships-3273784.shtml>).



(ATLA member names appear in bold)

continued on page 6

continued from page 5

2008 ATLA Publication Grant Winners

The ATLA Publications Committee is pleased to announce that Publication Grants are being awarded this year to James Chappel and to Ruth Gaba and **Kate Ganski**. Mr. Chappel, a research fellow and doctoral candidate at Columbia University, is pursuing a bibliographical project on the work of British Catholic intellectual, Ronald A. Knox (1888-1957). Ms. Gaba and Ms. Ganski, librarians at Concordia Theological Seminary in Indiana and Saint Francis Seminary in Wisconsin, respectively, are conducting an empirical study of the research behavior of seminarians. ATLA Publication Grants are awarded annually. Visit http://www.atla.com/pub_com/grant.html for more information about the grants, including criteria for selection, expenses for which the funding may be used, and procedure for application.



Staff of St. Vincent de Paul Seminary Library Continue Work in Italy

Ethan Allen, Acting Archivist at St. Vincent, and Marguerite Wolf, former staff member at St. Vincent, returned to Monastero de San Benedetto in Norcia, Italy in December 2007 to continue work on an ongoing library project they began in 2001. The Benedictines, who re-established monastic observance at the historic birthplace of Sts. Benedict and Scholastica, began with books scattered about on shelves. Cataloging began in 2002 and current holdings exceed 13,000 volumes. About one-third of the collection was shipped from now closed Corpus Christi Abbey in Sandia, Texas in time for the library's dedication in 2003 by then Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger.

Ethan and Marguerite travel to Italy when their schedules permit to continue cataloging volumes. During this last trip, some 500 volumes were cataloged in 8 days. In the absence of an on-site librarian, copy cataloging is prepared in the United States for use in Italy. Ethan hopes to

offer a supervised field education opportunity with the cooperation of the University of South Florida's School of Library and Information Science in the spring of 2008. For more information on the monastery, visit www.osbnorcia.org.



Weekly News Update Leads to Grant Award

Last September, one of the weekly news updates carried information about the Institute of Museum and Library Services IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf initiative, which distributes an essential set of books, online resources, and a user's guide to help small libraries and museums to care for their collections. "I followed up and applied and just found out on Thursday afternoon that we were one of the recipients," said Liz Leahy of Azusa Pacific University. "I would not have known about the grant if you had not included it in your Friday announcements, so I'm especially appreciative. It looks like there are several of us from ATLA who received the grant." You can visit http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/021908_list.shtm to see a list of recipients from across the country.

Liz added, "As for APU, we are looking forward to receiving these materials to learn how to continue to enhance our preservation work with our special and archival collections, and will plan to make the books we receive that can be circulated available through our lending networks such as Link+."



TTLA Spring Meeting Recap

Barbara Kemmis visited with Tennessee Theological Library Association (TTLA) on April 3 and 4. Despite April showers, eighteen TTLA members convened at Vanderbilt University for fellowship and learning. Barbara led the program with an



Marguerite Wolf and newly cataloged volumes for the monastery library.

update on events at ATLA and a discussion about the professional development needs of TTLA members.



New Special Committee Takes Shape

The ATLA Board established a Special Committee of the Association on Diversity at its January 18, 2008 midwinter meeting. This Committee will come into existence at the 2008 ATLA Annual Conference and will continue through June 30, 2011.

On Monday, March 3, **Diana Brice**, Serials and Acquisitions Librarian at JKM Library, and the board liaison, **Cait Kokolus**, Director of the Ryan Memorial Library at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary met with Director of Member Services **Barbara Kemmis** and Executive Director **Dennis Norlin** at ATLA headquarters to begin organizing the committee and its work.

Three ATLA members have been appointed to three-year terms on the Special Committee on Diversity: **Susan Ebertz**, Director of the Rau Memorial Library at Wartburg Theological Seminary; **Serge Danielson-Francois**, Librarian at Divine Child High School; and **Mayra Picos-Lee**, Instructional Librarian at Palmer Theological Seminary.

The committee is already communicating electronically and will hold its first meeting on Saturday, June 28th at the annual

Member News



Left: ATLA staff welcomed Diana Brice and Cait Kokolus to the ATLA offices for a preliminary planning meeting. Left to right: Dennis Norlin, ATLA Executive Director; Diana; Barbara Kemmis, ATLA Director of Member Services; and Cait.

conference. The board charge to the committee asks the members to:

- Receive applications, evaluate and select recipients of ATLA Scholarships for Minorities;
- Represent the Association at meetings of the ALA Affiliates Organization;
- Gather information about the diversity efforts of other library associations and explore possibilities for collaboration;
- Promote, plan, and monitor Annual Conference programs related to diversity;
- Investigate potential connections between racial diversity and other forms of diversity within the association;
- Develop programs that welcome new minority members into the Association and assist them in becoming active members;
- Report on the committee's efforts to the ATLA Board of Directors and members through official reports, newsletter and web articles, and sessions at the ATLA Annual Conference



(ATLA member names appear in bold)

ATLA and the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) Partner for New Member Benefit

With the collaboration of ATLA, the Society of Biblical Literature's Career Center will provide ATLA's members with SBL resources, including an affordable, effective job listing service. The Career Center is SBL's new axis for listing jobs, finding candidate CVs, registering for interviews at the SBL Annual Meeting, and accessing numerous career tools.

This new benefit will connect the growing field of librarianship with an ever widening audience, diversify opportunities for scholars to involve themselves with ATLA, and generate further support among related organizations.

The SBL Career Center includes job openings in theological, religious, biblical, and related studies for positions of teaching, research, administration, librarianships, and religious leadership. Professional development resources include grant and fellowship opportunities, higher education information, and practical advice columns.

The Career Center's new and improved services have been developed to foster

scholarly interchange in flexible and functional ways. Expanding services and partnering with vital organizations are ways of adapting to and innovatively addressing the ever changing concerns of international scholarship. For more information on this new Member benefit, please contact Barbara Kemmis, ATLA director of member services at bkemmis@atla.com.



Upcoming Newsletter Submissions

The deadline for submissions for the August issue of the *ATLA Newsletter* is July 1, 2008. Please send news items, announcements, etc., to Sara Corkery, Communications Specialist, at newsletter@atla.com. For submission guidelines see the newsletter home page: www.atla.com/member/publications/newsletter.html.



The ATLA Endowment Committee: @ Your Service

The Committee has a new goal: 100 contributors in 2008! And as an incentive, thanks to the success of its products and services, ATLA will match all annual gifts two-for-one during the year. Will you help?

Please consider the Endowment Fund when you wish to honor or memorialize someone with a gift. We will also be happy to assist you with any questions you may have regarding your planned giving.

Roger L. Loyd, Endowment Committee Chair

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www.ebscohost.com

Countdown to Launch of New ATLA Journal

One of many good reasons to attend the Annual Meeting in Ottawa next month is to be present for the official launch of ATLA's new online professional journal, *Theological Librarianship*. The editorial board of the journal will be introduced at the Business Meeting and Luncheon on Saturday, June 28, and the editors will showcase the inaugural issue. You will not want to miss this opportunity to witness history in the making!


The new journal and the reorganized ATLA Book Series with Scarecrow Press will now provide two excellent venues for theological librarians and others who want to contribute to the profession through scholarly publication. Members who are interested in publishing in the journal or in one of the book series should consider participating in two sessions at the Ottawa meeting designed to assist you. Beth Bidlack of the ATLA Publications Committee and members of the journal's editorial board will conduct a practical pre-conference workshop, "Writing for *Theological Librarianship*," on Wednesday, June 25, 8:30-12:00, and Justin Harkins, editor of the book series will lead a roundtable discussion, "The ATLA/Scarecrow Press Book Series" on Thursday, June 26, 11:30-12:30. Please note that the pre-conference workshop requires pre-registration.



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You'll find it online June 28, 2008.

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hosted by St. Louis Theological Consortium Libraries

The ATLA ICC Theological Librarians' Manual Wiki



Left: A screen shot of the Librarians' Manual Wiki home page

The interplay between awareness of needs on one hand, and new technologies on the other, and how the latter can address the former takes some interesting turns. A need at our house of keeping fluffs from our Sheltie under control has now become the task of a robotic vacuum. Those of us serving on the International Collaboration Committee take part in discussion lists with theological librarians from various countries, chat with these same librarians when we can get to one of their conferences, and perhaps serve as volunteers in their theological libraries during vacation or leave. We can close our eyes and picture actual people who do jobs similar to what we are doing, except they haven't had the training that many of us have enjoyed. In our work we have seen books that have been attempts to address some of those educational gaps—the titles that surface in WorldCat with a search on “Theological libraries—Handbooks, manuals, etc.” Couple this background awareness of need

with discoveries of new technologies, and it was only a matter of time until one of us on the Committee suggested that a wiki would be a great tool for developing a theological librarian's manual that could be truly international. We quickly imagined it including tips, workshop presentations, conference papers, and specially written articles—from theological librarians around the world in a variety of languages.

After some attempt at playing with scaled-down online free wikis as a committee, we got to thinking seriously how we could make this happen. Dennis Norlin asked us to hold off on pursuit of this while ATLA considered various computer issues and directions. Then, to our surprise, not long after we were told we had access to ATLA's new MediaWiki server as one of its earliest occupants.

To this point, the ICC members have learned their way around the software and we have thought through the beginnings of a structure for it and implemented

that. We have also created a discussion list of “friends of the ICC wiki,” interested librarians willing to make some suggestions as earlier adopters. A start has been made at publicizing it to international theological librarians' associations.

What is next? If the ATLA ICC Theological Librarians' Manual Wiki interests you, any contributions of material that you think would benefit would be welcome. Editing the Wiki takes a bit of learning. At the bottom of the page there is a link to a primer on editing MediaWiki—click on the *Editing basics* link. By printing this page, you will have the basics you need to take care of editing. If your contribution is a link to another site, first registering and logging in, followed by a bit of editing with adding your link will be all it takes. If you are providing a pdf, doc or ppt file, you will need to upload that file and then perform the previously mentioned editing steps to add a link to the uploaded file. If you wish to contribute something, but don't want the added hurdle of adding materials yourself, you may email them to me, cbeldan@comcast.net, as attachments, and I will mount them. Your providing a brief introduction and instruction as to where you think your submission belongs in the structure would be helpful.

—Chris Beldan, Chair, International Communications Committee



The Bhagavad Gita

by Lars Martin Fosse

224 pages • 6 x 9 • Glossary • Index
Paper 9780971646674 \$14.95 • Cloth 9780971646667 \$29.95

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READ THE ORIGINALS

Perspectives on Professional Development

New Professional Development Program

I am happy to be able to tell you this month about two new professional development programs developed by your Professional Development Committee for mid-career librarians.

The first item is a mentoring or consultation program that will draw on the depth of experience of our retired lifetime members. Mentors will be available for practical advice and consultation, as well as for moral support and fellowship. The PDC hopes that this service will be especially useful for new library directors, especially those who may be geographically far from other theological library directors. The specific character of the advisory association will be left up to the participants, so you will be able to develop as much or as little of an exchange as you desire. More information on this program will be forthcoming over the next few months.


The other item I want to highlight is a scholarship program to support ATLA members attending leadership development training. The scholarship will fund the difference between the amount of support you receive from your institution and the total cost of the program up to a maximum of \$1500. We are working hard to make the application process simple. You will be asked to provide some basic information about the leadership development program you want to attend and to write a short statement about why you want to attend. We will also be asking that members who receive scholarships report back to the PDC on their experience, good or bad, so that we can share that information with the rest of the ATLA membership.

The PDC has a list of recommended leadership development programs at http://www.atla.com/member/professional_development/leadership.html. If you are interested in a program not on this list,

you will have to send program information to the PDC for review for inclusion in the scholarship program. The PDC has full guidelines available on the ATLA website at http://www.atla.com/member/professional_development.html and the application process for scholarships is open immediately. Applications will be reviewed by the PDC throughout the year.

Do not hesitate to contact me or any other member of the Professional Development Committee with questions or comments about either of these programs or anything else relating to professional development. The PDC looks forward to helping you.

*Eric Friede, Chair
ATLA Professional Development Committee
Yale Divinity Library, Yale Divinity School*



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ATLA Product News

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ATLA Product Notes

ATLAS® Update

ATLA is pleased to announce that the *ATLASerials*® (*ATLAS*) online collection of major religion and theology journals has recently added seven new titles to their collection:

- *Communio Viatorum*
- *Discipliana*
- *Harvard Theological Review*
- *Liturgical Ministry*
- *Pro Ecclesia*
- *Tyndale Bulletin*
- *Tyndale House Bulletin*



Preservation News

From March 16 to 22, Diane Pugh, ATLA's Manager of Preservation Projects, and Russell Kracke, former Director of Preservation Products and Services, visited ATLA's vaults at Iron Mountain in western Pennsylvania. Diane and Russell were conducting an audit of printing master negatives of ATLA's microfilm, in preparation for moving them into the association's new printing masters vault.

Above: Diane Pugh inside the new vault.



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ATLA Staff News

servicing ATLA members and customers

From the Executive Director



Crossing the Border

After attending thirteen ATLA annual conferences all across the U.S. since I joined the staff in 1995, I'm ready for a new experience at this year's conference. All of the conferences I've attended have been memorable, from the first (1995 in Nashville) to the most recent (2007 in Philadelphia), and I've enjoyed them all. During my tenure we've been in Nashville, Denver, Boston, Leesburg, Chicago, Berkeley, Minneapolis, Durham, Portland, Kansas City, Austin, Chicago, and Philadelphia.

Each annual conference brings memories of near mishaps (the asbestos in Boston, the drenching downpour on the cruise in Chicago, the elevator incident in Austin), as well as wonderful speakers and workshops and programs. Through the years I've been especially pleased to see a dramatic increase in research, papers, and panel discussions on timely topics. It's a sign that many more of our members are actively engaged in scholarly activity and contributing to the literature and substance of the profession.

We've had some wonderful plenary speakers and some controversial ones; we've worshipped in many, many different religious traditions, and we've welcomed many first-time attendees and celebrated the retirement of more and more of our members. Our attendance has grown rather dramatically, and 2006 and 2007 were our largest conferences ever.

I'm very pleased that we are finally crossing the border to join our Canadian colleagues on their home turf. The last time ATLA met in Canada was in 1993, just fifteen years ago. Long-termers will remember that conference for the sad circumstance of the death of host librarian Elizabeth Hart, just one month before the conference.

The 1993 conference included a memorial service for Elizabeth and other members who had died during the year (Richard Doolen, Helen Knubel, Calvin Schmitt, Kate Warnick). A special resolution was passed, honoring the work of Donn Michael and Joyce Farris who were editor and associate editor of this ATLA Newsletter for forty years (!) from 1953-1993. It was also the occasion for the first major gift for the ATLA Endowment Fund, from Jean Morris in honor of her husband Raymond for his long-time commitment to ATLA preservation programs.

At the time of the 1993 annual conference there were 172 institutional members and

nine exhibitors and the unified annual budget was \$2,289,858. As we approach our 2008 annual conference in Ottawa fifteen years later, we have 305 institutional members (including 15 international institutional members). We will have 30 exhibitors, 18 advertisers, and seven sponsors, and our current annual budget is \$5,428,800.

I've never been to Ottawa, but, from all reports, it is a lovely and enchanting city, and I'm very much looking forward to this conference for many reasons, not the least of which is to give thanks for all of those who made possible our last Canadian conference in 1993. I hope you will all join us in Ottawa in June for another chapter in the life of this most amazing organization.

Dennis A. Norlin
ATLA Executive Director

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARIES

information central

OCTOBER 2008

For helpful tips, ideas, and information, go to
<http://www.atla.com/member/TLM.html>

Staff Updates

Tim Elston, ATLA's Database Manager for Products, has resigned his position to accept a job in Juneau, Alaska working as a programmer. His last day at ATLA headquarters in the lower forty-eight was March 14. Please join us in congratulating him on this opportunity and thanking him for all the work he has done on Research in Ministry (RIM®), Religion Index One (RIO®) print, and all the other projects that have enhanced the *ATLA Religion Database*.

Congratulations are also in order for Julia Olsen as she takes on her new job as an archivist at the Chicago Public Library working on the Millennium Park project. Julia's last day as a Digitization/Data Entry Assistant at ATLA was April 25.

ATLA is pleased to announce the promotion of Diane Pugh to the position of Manager of Preservation Projects. Ms. Pugh has been on the staff at ATLA since April, 2002. She earned her B.A. from Evergreen College, her MLS from the University of Pittsburgh, and is a trained and certified archivist. ATLA has also created a new Preservation Assistant position to provide support for ATLA's various preservation projects.

ATLA is also pleased to announce the promotion of Jim Butler to the position of Systems Manager. Mr. Butler is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago with a M.S. in Management Information Systems (2005). He served three years in the United States Army as an Automated Support Systems Specialist, and has been employed at ATLA since October, 2005.

Digitization/Data Entry Assistant Catherine Eilers will soon be working as a cataloger at St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City. Catherine's last day at ATLA will be Friday, May 2. ATLA offers its congratulations and best wishes to Catherine.



Chicago Area Religious Archivists (CARA) Group Forms

A group of archivists of religious collections from the Chicago area met at the Claretian Missionaries Archives in downtown Chicago on November 5, 2007 for a planning meeting to discuss the possibility of forming the Chicago Area Religious Archivists (CARA). The goal was to create a group through which archivists for religious institutions and agencies, as well as curators for religious manuscript collections, could network with other archivists of religious collections, share common concerns and information, become familiar with other religious archives in the Chicago area, and host educational programs for professional development. It was noted at the meeting that Chicago is rich in theological resources, with the Chicagoland area serving as home to more than twenty-one religious archives. Present were Joan Sweeney, Archivist for the Viatorian Community; Diane Pugh, Senior Preservation Specialist (now Manager of Preservation Projects) for The American Theological Library Association (ATLA); Joella Cunnane, Archivist for the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas; **Ken O'Malley**, Archivist for the Catholic Theological Union; Conrad Borntager, Archivist serving the religious order of the Servants of Mary (Servites); Malachy McCarthy, Archivist for the Claretian Missionaries; and Gwyn Stupar, Archivist for the Sisters of the Living Word.

A follow-up meeting was held on February 18th, 2008, where attendees reviewed for approval a set of proposed by-laws drawn up by Diane Pugh. During the review process, it was decided that CARA will be an affiliate of the Chicago Area Archivists (CAA), and therefore its members will pay an annual membership fee to CAA of \$10, and a \$5 membership fee for CARA. You read that correctly, only \$15 total annually to belong to both groups! The following interim officers for the CARA Steering Committee were also elected:

- Malachy McCarthy, Chair
- Diane Pugh, Vice Chair
- Gwyn Stupar, Secretary
- Richard Seidel (Historiographer and

Archivist, Diocese of Chicago, Episcopal Church), Treasurer/Membership

- Joan Sweeney, Communications Coordinator

Morgan MacIntosh, of the DePaul University Special Collections and Archives, also volunteered to serve in an interim capacity as the liaison between CARA and CAA. These individuals will serve as interim officers for CARA until the first election is held at the fall meeting.

We hope that all interested will join CARA for our first event at the Chicago History Museum (CHM) on Thursday, May 8, 2008 from 6 to 8 p.m., where we will enjoy a presentation by the co-curators of the Chicago Catholic exhibit, Jill Grannan and Marie Scatena. Both Jill and Marie will share how the exhibit was conceived, planned and executed. Following the tour, there will be a Question and Answer period. Malachy McCarthy attended the opening of the exhibit and reports that it "was WONDERFUL" and "far beyond his expectations"; well designed, conceived, and including three multi-media presentations that he said provide a richness to the subject matter. Those wanting more information about the exhibit can visit the CHM website at <http://chicagohistory.org/planavisit/exhibitions/catholic-chicago/index>, but should keep in mind that the CARA event will be a special lecture for archivists, during which curators will explain how they went about planning and mounting the exhibit. The cost for the exhibit tour will be \$12 per person. Following will be a social at Brick Pizza at 1909 N. Lincoln Avenue at the cost of \$12 per person for pizza, salad and soda – tip and gratuity included. For more details, call or e-mail Diane Pugh at (312)775-9411, e-mail: dpugh@atla.com; or contact Malachy McCarthy at (312) 544-8219, e-mail: mccarthy@claretiens.org.

—Diane Pugh, ATLA Manager of Preservation Projects

Calendar

- May**
- 12 IFLA/OCLC Early Career Fellows visit ATLA Headquarters
- 16 ATLA 2008 Annual Conference—Early Bird Registration Deadline
- 16 Housing Deadline: Conference rates at both hotels expire after this date
- 26 Memorial Day, ATLA office closed
- June**
- 21–23 Dennis Norlin representing ATLA at ATS Biennial Meeting
- 25–28 ATLA 2008 Annual Conference at the Westin Ottawa in Ottawa, Ontario
- July**
- 1 Content due for August issue of *ATLA Newsletter* and *Theology Cataloging Bulletin*
- 4 Independence Day, ATLA office closed
- 10–18 Barbara Kemmis attending Red Latinoamericana de Informacion Teologica Biennial Meeting in Asuncion, Paraguay
- August**
- 15 Membership renewal invoices sent
- September**
- 1 Labor Day, ATLA office closed
- 7–17 Dennis Norlin representing ATLA at BETH meeting in Leuven, Belgium
- November**
- 1–3 ATLA Products and Services exhibition/member and publisher reception, AAR 2008 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois
- 21–25 ATLA Products and Services exhibition/member and publisher reception, SBL 2008 Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts



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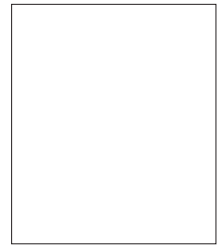
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Cover photo: Abbot and Priests at Sukwang-sa (temple) on North Mountain, Seoul.

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